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Notes on
THE UNWIN
FAMILY

by

J. D. UNWIN

LONDON
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FOREWORD
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THE four of us, undersigned, are interested in the antiquities of the Unwin family, and have formed ourselves into a committee for the collection, classification, and private publication of the available data. These Notes have been written by one of us (J. D. U.), and printed by another of us (S. U.), in the hope that all Unwins will help us by sending us information about themselves and their ancestors and by doing some research on the lines indicated.

We desire not only to construct complete and trustworthy genealogical tables, but also to obtain as much information as possible concerning the history, status, and personal lives of our forbears. To this end we invite our kinsmen and kinswomen to provide us with such material as may be helpful; and we thank them in advance for doing so.

Communications should be addressed to

PHILIP I. UNWIN, Esq.
Loxley Cottage
Dunsfold
Surrey

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NOTES ON THE UNWIN FAMILY

I

THE UNWINS

EARLY in the sixteenth century the Unwins were firmly established in at least four counties, Hampshire, Staffordshire, Wiltshire, and Essex. There is some reason to believe that the Essex Unwins were the parent stock; but when we become more intimately acquainted with the facts we may find that this was not the case. Early in the seventeenth century Unwins were prominent in another county also, Derbyshire. The Derbyshire Unwins are sometimes called the Sheffield Unwins; but, since Sheffield was an insignificant township when the Unwins were first in the district, it is preferable to speak of the Derbyshire Unwins.

I have not the space, even if I had the knowledge, to speak in detail of all these Unwins; so I shall merely make a few general remarks about the Hampshire, Staffordshire, Wiltshire, and Derbyshire Unwins, and discuss the Essex Unwins at slightly greater length.

If we may judge from the number of their extant wills and from the size of the estates they owned the early Essex Unwins were richer and more energetic than their kinsmen; but the fortunes of each branch of the family have always ebbed and flowed, and in the nineteenth century the Essex Unwins who remained in Essex were not so distinguished as their relations in London or their kinsmen in the western counties

Our family has never played a leading part in national life; indeed it has seldom risen from the solid ranks of the middle classes. Speaking generally, the Church has been its favourite profession, textiles the main source of its wealth, the land its greatest love. Knighthoods have been rare; I know of two only; but in their heyday the Essex family owned manors rated at two knights' fees, and at one time most of the Hedingham Unwins owned much land. The Essex Unwins also intermarried with some of the most notable families of their county, the Gents, of Moynes Park, for example, with whom two marriages took place, and the Todds of Sturmer Hall, who also intermarried with the Gents. It was quite common, too, in the seventeenth century, for an Unwin to be elected as a burges of Colchester; and there can be no doubt about the family's local reputation there. The other branches of the family also intermarried, at various times, with members of the old squirearchy. There is abundant evidence of their local distinction.

Of the Wiltshire Unwins I have no genealogical knowledge. Bishop's Cannings was their home. They were rich and flourishing before the middle of the sixteenth century. Several of their early wills are extant. A reading of these wills, and a visit to Bishop's Cannings, would be a good starting-point for a study of the history of these important men. I cannot say if there is any mention of them in the Visitations of Wiltshire.

The Staffordshire Unwins are the only ones whose right to Arms has been officially recognized. Their chief settlement was at Chaterley (Chatterleigh). Few of their wills are extant. They flourished greatly about the middle of the sixteenth century, and then seem to have declined. Perhaps most of them migrated to other counties. I have not been

successful in my search for a pedigree of the early Staffordshire Unwins, but the publications of the Harleian Society contain much information about them. There is good reason to believe that they were closely related to the Hampshire family, which had a considerable reputation in the sixteenth century and was then recognized as a "county" family. An early pedigree is recorded in the Visitation of Hampshire, 1575-1622. The progenitor was a certain Thomas. The family claimed Arms, but failed to prove a right to them. One of Thomas's descendants, Simon (b. 1619), migrated to Clough-house, Staffordshire, perhaps in order to live near his distinguished kinsmen. He is mentioned in the Visitation of Staffordshire, 1663. The chief settlement in Hampshire was at Horton, sometimes called Horton Yabington. A search at Horton might yield great results. Much genealogical information is available in regard to the Hampshire family, but I do not think that any early wills are extant.

It is probable that the Derbyshire Unwins were an offshoot from one of these branches. In the eighteenth century the chief centre of the Derbyshire Unwins was at Eyam; but prominent Unwins lived in Sheffield in the previous century. So far as I know, no attempt has ever been made to collect any details in regard to the early history of these men; nor have the records at Eyam ever been searched. At the present time the Derbyshire Unwins are represented by, among others, Sir Raymond Unwin and the Rev. R. C. Unwin, of St Asaph, Birmingham; and I think that the Unwin-Heathcotes, of Shephalbury, Herts., are Derbyshire Unwins. They are descended from Samuel Unwin, of Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

Most of the sixteenth-century Unwins appear to have been engaged in the wool trade. At first they were probably

craftsmen, combers, weavers, fullers, etc., but some of them were so successful as to become clothiers. The money they made was usually invested in land. The clothiers were the first employers in the history of British industry. The earliest of them were craftsmen, too, but later a clothier became a mere capitalist. He purchased wool and sent it to be spun and carded, gave out the yarn to the weavers, placed the cloth with the fullers, dyers, and tuckers, had it felted and cleansed, and finally sold it to the drapers. Some Unwins were most successful clothiers, but their sons do not always seem to have followed their fathers' trade. When a man was rich some of his sons tended to become squires or priests; others wandered; and it was not uncommon for a man who migrated to London to become a skinner. Unwins were trading in the City of London early in the sixteenth century; most of them appear to have been skinnners. Thus Lawrence, who died in 1577, was a skinner in Walbrook. He was not a rich man, but he was in a fair way of business, and was able to make ample provision for his wife and family. He also left some money to Christ's Hospital, a little less money to the poor of All Hallows, and six-and-eightpence to the "godly and learned man" who preached at his funeral. In this matter Lawrence disappoints me; I think he might have done better than that, especially as he left twenty shillings for a dinner to his fellow-skinners. I do not know where he came from, but this incidence makes me reluctant, without irrefragable evidence, to accept him as an Essex Unwin. None of the Essex Unwins would have regarded six-and-eightpence as a fair price for a first-class funeral sermon. They were in the habit of paying at least two pounds for that inestimable service.

In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries it was not

uncommon for an Unwin to be called "Gent.". This is true not only of the Essex Unwins but of all Unwins; and the description is an eloquent one, for it implies either a noted capitalist or a proprietor of much land. In the Parish Registers these men, and their immediate descendants, are sometimes referred to as "Mr". The entries are implicit proof of a rise in the social, if not in the cultural, scale. Sometimes, indeed, I have begun to feel an inordinate pride in being the offspring of men who enjoyed such rare distinctions. But on such occasions I have usually managed to remind myself that on August 13th, 1623, John Unwin, of Shipton, Gloucestershire, was among those who "disclaymed to be no Gentilmen within the County and City of Gloucester".

In the course of our history our name has been variously spelt. Unwin is fairly established by the middle of the seventeenth century, but before that time the name appears as Unwyn, Unwynne, Unvoyne, Unvine, Unnewyn, Hunwyn, Onwynne, Onwyn, Onwine, Onvine, Oynon, Onyon, and Onion. In Oynon, perhaps, the second and third letters of Onyon have been accidentally transposed. As for Hunwyn, why, all of us know that we are commonly presented with an aspirate, and it seems unreasonable to cavil at the writing of an h that is so often pronounced. The other forms of the name are definitely alternatives; none of them is exclusively used by any branch of the family. The son of an Unwyn is often subscribed as an Onyon, the son of an Onwine as an Unnewyn, and so on. Moreover, the same man may be referred to, in different parts of the same document, as "Onion alias Unwin", and as "Unwin alias Onion". It is depressing to reflect that our ancestors may be responsible for all the Onions in England.

The substitution of w for v (Unvine, Unwine, etc.) suggests a foreign origin and a migration in comparatively recent times from the continent of Europe. This agrees with the family legends, the commonest of which says that we are Huguenots, and that the family came to England during the persecution of the Protestants by the Duke of Alva. This theory, I believe, was formulated, or at any rate first published, by Samuel Smiles; but I have found no support for it, and myself do not believe it to be true. Indeed there is much evidence to show that it is false. I do not doubt that we are descended from Flemings who came to England after the Norman Conquest; but the migration, or the earliest migration, if there was more than one, must have taken place at an earlier date than the sixteenth century.

The Hundred Rolls of 1273, which are the only ones I have seen, contain the names of several Unwins. In that year there was a William Unwinne in Oxfordshire, a Philip Unwyne in Huntingdonshire, a William Unwin and a Reginald Hunwyn in Cambridgeshire, and a Simon Unnewyn in Lincolnshire. I do not know any more about these men. Doubtless further inquiries will reveal more abundant, perhaps even earlier, information.

There is another argument against the idea that our ancestors first came to England in the sixteenth century. When the Flemings fled from the wrath of Alva large numbers of them were permitted to settle in East Anglia. A careful record was kept of, and a more careful supervision maintained over, their movements. In the records of the Borough of Colchester there is a list of "all such strangers, menne, women, and children, as are within the Towne of Colchester, ye xxvith daie of April, 1573, which fled out of the cuntrye of Flanders for their conscience sake by

reason of the Tirannius usage of the Papistes there, and permitted to remaine in Colchester by licence from the Queenes Majestys privie councill". The list is carefully compiled. The name of each man is given, with the number of his wives [*sic*] and children, and the name of the citizen in whose house they were lodged. The total number, which checks, is given as 534, and we may reasonably assume that the list contains no omissions. No Unwin appears in it. Yet we know that in 1579 Unwins were being born and buried in the parish of St Nicholas, Colchester. Thus we may conclude that in the middle of the sixteenth century the Unwins of Colchester were not recognized by their fellow-citizens as immigrants; and the same conclusion must be drawn in the case of any other sixteenth-century Unwin. By that time the Unwins, whatever their origin, had become, and were accepted as, natives.

The family Arms confirm the theory of foreign origin. They consist of three gold fleurs-de-lis, placed two over one, in an azure field. But concerning the Arms there are many complications, some of which may be noted.

In his *Encyclopaedia Heraldica* Berry mentions Arms for the Staffordshire, Hampshire, and Essex Unwins; but between the several shields, as Berry describes them, there are some interesting differences. The Arms granted to William Unwyn, of Chaterley, Staffs., 15 November 1581, consisted of three silver fleurs-de-lis, and, below them, a gold crescent. In the shield of another Staffordshire Unwin the gold crescent is missing; the fleurs-de-lis are again silver, not gold. Gold fleurs-de-lis appear in the Arms which Berry credits to the Hampshire Unwins, but in the Hampshire shield an elaboration has been introduced: silver spears issue from the top of it. This elaboration is omitted

from the Arms which, according to Berry, were used by the Essex Unwins. He describes the Essex shield as consisting of three gold fleurs-de-lis, simply.

From these data it is tempting to conclude that, since the Hampshire shield is an elaboration of the Essex shield, the Hampshire family was an off-shoot from the Essex family. And the use in Staffordshire of silver, as opposed to gold, fleurs-de-lis might be held to indicate that the Staffordshire group, though of the same origin as, had separated itself at an early date from, the other two groups. But as soon as we examine the historical evidence we must dismiss these conjectures. Historically there seems to have been some connection between the Hampshire and Staffordshire Unwins; no link at present exists between them and the Essex Unwins. Furthermore, only one grant of Arms, that made to William Unwyn, of Staffordshire, has been officially recognized. When the Hampshire family applied for Arms, no grant was made; and no official justification can be found for Berry's ascription of Arms to the Essex family. Yet it is definitely recorded (I myself have seen their signatures) that during the Visitation of Essex, 1664, John and Nathaniel Unwin, both of Castle Hedingham, signed a declaration to the effect that they had no right to Arms; and it is difficult to understand why they should have been asked, or persuaded, to disclaim their right if the right had never existed or could not possibly exist. Moreover, anyone who visits Castle Hedingham will find that Arms are carved on the tomb of Thomas (1618-1689). Thus when John and Nathaniel disclaimed their right to Arms there was living in the same town a prominent Unwin, aged 46, who was so confident of his right to Arms that he had them engraved on his tomb. Perhaps Thomas's action may be

interpreted as a protest against the behaviour of his brothers (cousins?) in disclaiming their right. I am inclined to think that at one time the Essex Unwins had a right to Arms which, owing to the action of John and Nathaniel, was never afterwards recognized officially.

The only existing hatchment known to me is in the parish church at Ramsden Bellhouse, near Billericay, Essex. It is very dilapidated, and the Vicar would like to have it restored. It belonged to Sir John Unwin (1714–1789), uncle of William Cawthorne Unwin, who was Rector of Stoke-cum-Ramsden, 1769–1786. Sir John grew rich by the purchase and sale of Anglican livings, and was knighted for the services thus rendered to the Church. During and just after his lifetime many Essex Unwins felt an urge to become priests.

In 1886 Arms were granted to John Unwin, of North Meols, Lancs., Mayor of Southport. I do not know anything about him, but suspect him of being a Staffordshire Unwin.

In 1929 Arms for Unwin were granted to Michael Arthur Unwin-Heathcote, of Shephalbury, Herts., son of Arthur Samuel Unwin-Heathcote, late of the same place. Arms for Heathcote were granted to this family in 1815. The original Samuel Heathcote Unwin-Heathcote, of Sheephall Bury (as the name used to be spelt), Herts., was the eldest son of Samuel Unwin, of Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts. As I have said, I am inclined to regard him as a Derbyshire Unwin.

Till I studied my notes I had always thought that I was the only Unwin who could claim to be a member of both Universities; but I was wrong. The palm must be awarded to our reverend kinsman Stephen, who in 1706 was admitted

as a sizar to Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He graduated in 1709, transferred himself to Oxford in 1712, became Vicar of Bures St Mary, Suffolk, in 1716, Rector of West Meon, Hants., in 1720, and Canon of St Paul's in 1728. Stephen was an Essex Unwin; and his migration to Hampshire warns us that in later times the early divisions of the family were broken. Several other early migrations are known to me; nearly all of them occurred when an Unwin, having been ordained, took up a living in another part of the country. Thus Thomas, who in 1590 matriculated at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and is always presented with the sub-title "Gent.", was a Wiltshire Unwin. After he had graduated he became Rector of Huntley, Glouc. Again, in 1788, Edward, the son of James Unwin, of Baddow, Essex, graduated from Pembroke College, Oxford; from 1809 till his death in 1847 he was Vicar of Werburgh, Derbyshire. During the time of the gallant Sir John, of course, it was common for Essex Unwins to be in the possession of livings in different shires; but we may not infer that a reverend Unwin lived in each parish. Sir John was too shrewd a man to fill every living that he owned. Several of his relations were fortunate enough to possess more than one living; among them Matthias, who was once driven to take legal action because the Bishop of Worcester refused to institute him. Matthias was a Cambridge man, and matriculated at Queens' College in 1740.

In addition to the Thomas, Edward, and Stephen whom I have just mentioned, there was only one Unwin at Oxford before the nineteenth century. This was a certain Roger (subscribed as Unvine), who came from Worcestershire, matriculated in 1607, and resided at Balliol College. I do

not know what happened to him after that. Apparently he did not graduate.

Of the nineteenth-century men it should be simple to obtain more information than I possess. In 1871 Charles Edward, son of Samuel Hope Unwin, of Chepstow, Mon., graduated from Worcester College and afterwards became Rector of Cossington, Somerset. Two, perhaps three, sons of a certain John Unwin, of Marylebone, were Oxonians. I conjecture that this John is to be identified with the John (1774-1843), who was chief clerk to the Treasury and married Rosamund, daughter of John Sargent, of Halstead Place, Kent. One of their daughters, Geraldine Harriet, married (St James, Piccadilly, 6 October 1855) her cousin, Sir Charles Sargent.

In 1814 a certain Samuel, of Sutton, Notts. (probably the progenitor of the Unwin-Heathcotes), sent his son Edward to Oriel College; and I think that James Wheeler (Oriel College, 1831) and Edward Wilberforce (Pembroke College, 1842) were Edward's sons. As a youth the second boy was at Rugby, and when I was at Shrewsbury School I discovered that some Unwins had been there in the previous generation. Bishop's Stortford College also sheltered some Unwins between 1869 and 1875. These must have been members of a Nonconformist branch of the family.

I record these scattered facts in the hope that they may act as pegs on which to hang further inquiries. Much information is available; and the completion of the records ought not to be a very difficult task, especially if these notes catch the eye of some descendants of the Staffordshire, Hampshire, and Wiltshire families.

Several Unwins graduated at Cambridge before 1750. Among them there were two important Essex Unwins,

Thomas and Morley, to whom I shall refer again. They were at Jesus College and Queens' College respectively. In 1668 John, a Derbyshire Unwin, was a graduate and Fellow of Magdalene College. He was ordained deacon and priest in the same year. In 1676 another John, the son of William Unwin, a farmer in Cheshire, was at Pembroke College.

THE ESSEX UNWINS

THE fact that in any area the name of a progenitor is usually found to be Thomas or John encourages me to think that we shall eventually discover the manner in which the various branches of the family were related. Our fathers were extremely conservative in their choice of Christian names; and the persistency with which the names of Thomas and John occur in the earliest records is a strong indication of common origin. It would be extraordinary if three or four unrelated groups of Unwins spontaneously chose and perpetuated the same names.

The early Essex Unwins settled in the Hundred of Henckford, and in the middle of the sixteenth century there were five separate families, whose mutual relationship is unknown to me. These families lived in Colchester, Thaxted, Great Sampford (also called Old Sampford), Hadstock, and Castle Hedingham (then known as Henningham Castle), respectively. In every case the progenitor was a Thomas or a John.

Of these five groups the Sampford and Hedingham ones are the most important; they were richer, and occupied a higher position in the social scale, than the others. But my knowledge of the Colchester Unwins is scanty; and it is possible that when more evidence has been collected I shall have to revise my opinion. The Thaxted and Hadstock families do not appear to have achieved any worldly success; the fortunes of the others varied from time to time. The Sampford Unwins, some of whom migrated to Steeple

Bumpstead and elsewhere, were at their best in the sixteenth century; at that time the Hedingham Unwins were comparatively unimportant; but in the seventeenth century the Sampford Unwins declined, and the Hedingham Unwins were bursting with wealth and energy. After the middle of the eighteenth century there was a decline in the fortunes of the Hedingham men, the more vigorous of whom migrated to other parts of the county or to London.

The Thaxted Unwins were numerous. Indeed their chief, perhaps their only, virtue lay in their numbers. They are very uninteresting. Odd scraps of information can be picked up in the Law Reports; and a study of the Hundred Rolls might produce more data than I have had either the opportunity or the inclination to collect. I do not know when the original Unwins arrived in Thaxted. The Parish Registers begin in 1558, and Unwins were being baptized in and after 1562. The father of the earliest recorded children seems to have been a certain John.

A John Unwin was also the progenitor of the Hadstock Unwins. He died in 1559. The family in Hadstock was a small one, and may have suffered from its comparative isolation. Anyway, it soon disappeared; after 1581 there were no living males. Joan (b. 1570), Mary (b. 1581), and their cousin, Margaret (b. 1584), alone remained. By marrying three times, Margaret's father, Robert, did his best to secure an heir, but he was not successful. The honourable title of "Gent." is never given to the members of this family. There is no evidence in regard to the way in which the family lived.

Unwins again appeared in Hadstock in the eighteenth century, when a certain Nathaniel came to marry Susan Woolland. I do not know, but it should not be difficult to

discover, where the original Nathaniel came from. I suspect him of being a Hedingham man, for Nathaniel was a favourite Hedingham name, and none of the other groups chose to use it. But little time need be spent in trying to discover the identity of Nathaniel, for he was a dull fellow, and his descendants were degenerate. Several of them died of smallpox; at least one of the unmarried girls was a pauper; the men appear to have been lazy, the women neglected. Nathaniel's third son, Nathaniel, went to Radwinter for a wife.

The Sampford men deserve more attention than has yet been given to them. In the sixteenth century they were richer, and socially more important, than the Hedingham Unwins. Three generations later they disappear in a mist of genealogical confusion. They seem to have adopted the choice of Achilles—a short life, full of deeds and glory, in preference to a century or two of dull obscurity; but perhaps I am exaggerating. In the sixteenth century they were sufficiently outstanding to be called "Gent.," in the Parish Registers the honourable title of "Mr" also appears. Undoubtedly they were clothiers; they also grew rich; and, as usual, they invested their money in land. By the middle of the sixteenth century one of them had already migrated to Steeple Bumpstead. Later their descendants seem to have lived at Hempstead, Helions Bumpstead, Radwinter, and Little Sampford; but no safe conclusion can be drawn from such evidence as I have. In the eighteenth century the men whom I regard as their descendants were merely labourers.

One of the earliest, but not the earliest, of the Sampford Unwins was a certain Thomas, who died in 1566. He was a man of considerable property, and late in life moved to

Steeple Bumpstead, where he purchased more property. He married a widow named Alice, who must have been either clever or fascinating, for when Thomas married her she already had three daughters. Alice seems to have been a Sampford woman; her daughters married Sampford men. Thomas's removal to Steeple Bumpstead did not break his connection with Sampford; in his will he left money to the poor of both parishes. He had one son, Richard, who in 1578 purchased a nice little property, Goodinges (Goddings), in Little Yeldham. Goodinges was once a reputed manor, rated at a knight's fee, but when Richard bought it, it merely consisted of a house, a garden, and 215 acres. There is no reason to think that he ever lived there; it was simply an investment for his spare capital. The property was sold by Richard's eldest son, Robert, 14 August 1621.

While Goodinges remained in the family, another event, testifying to the status of the family, occurred: on 13 April 1591, a Thomas Unwin married Bridget, the youngest child of Thomas Gent, of Moynes Park. Bridget was then 19 years old, and I fear that she may have had an unhappy married life. Soon after her marriage the Unwin fortunes began to dwindle, and there can be no doubt that Bridget's numerous children were poor. We can almost watch her money shrink. In 1596 her husband paid 540/- in taxes; in 1623, 60/-; in 1629 Bridget, as a widow, paid 20/- only. Thomas, her husband, seems to have been the eldest son of George, of Sampford. Contemporary with George there was a certain John, whose son Richard migrated to Little Sampford. Most of their descendants lived either in one of the Sampfords or in a neighbouring village. Their fortunes varied, but after the beginning of the seventeenth century the family never regained its

former distinction. A single story will illustrate their character.

In the first half of the seventeenth century a Thomas and a John flourished mildly in Helions Bumpstead and Great Sampford, respectively. Thomas had married Joan Haly, of Little Bardfield; and when he died he left all his property to her, appointing her brother as his executor. Thomas left money to the poor of Steeple and Helions Bumpstead, and gave each of his daughters a dowry of £250. But he was distressed by his lack of a son. When he was making his will his wife happened to be pregnant, and Thomas made careful provision for the unborn child, and described in detail what was to be done (*a*) if it was a boy, (*b*) if it was another girl. Evidently it was a girl; and apparently Thomas had miscalculated, for, after all the dowries had been paid or allowed for, there was little left for Joan. Joan then married a man called Wily, of Ickleton, Cambs., and in order that she should not be worse off than her daughters John of Sampford, who was by no means a rich man, came to her rescue, and purchased some property for her in Ickleton. In this property Joan had a life-interest. On her death it went to John's youngest son, Thomas.

The Sampford men attract me very much. They were simple, but there is something genuine about them which is sadly lacking in the early Hedingham men. I do not know what relationship existed between the original Thomas, John, and George. Doubtless more extended researches will reveal it. Perhaps they were brothers.

There is no reason to suppose that any of the Sampford Unwins ever migrated to Hedingham. No connecting link between the families is known to me. It is reasonable to suppose that they had a common ancestor. If so, this ancestor

probably lived in the fifteenth century. An examination of the Hundred Rolls might solve the problem. If we may judge from the character of the richer members of the Hedingham family the early Unwins were sufficiently litigious to make frequent appearances in the Rolls.

In the seventeenth century, in addition to the places I have mentioned, Unwins were living in Great Bardfield, Toppesfield, Witham, Finchingfield, Wethersfield, Colchester, Stambourne, Braintree, Brightlingsea, Hockley, Rickling, and perhaps in many other villages also. In some cases a migration from one village to another can be traced; in the last five cases wills are extant. Unfortunately I have not read them. Some of these Unwins would be descended from the Hedingham family, others from the Sampford family, others from the Thaxted family.

It was at the end of the seventeenth century that there occurred the second marriage between the Unwins and the Gents of Moynes Park: Joseph Unwin, of Castle Hedingham, married Hannah, daughter of George Gent, 22 December 1692. For reasons unknown to me this marriage is often referred to with bated breath. The marriage between Thomas Unwin and Bridget Gent, which had taken place just over a hundred years before, even if known, is never credited with the same social significance. Yet the Gents appear to have been more important at the end of the sixteenth century than they were at the end of the seventeenth century. In 1588 Thomas Gent, Bridget's father, had been Baron of the Exchequer; and I cannot imagine George Gent rising to such heights. Moreover, Thomas Gent never suffered the indignity of being summoned for conspiracy, as George was; and, so far as I know, Bridget's mother was not compelled, as Hannah's mother is said to

have been, to form a counter-plot in defence of the alleged victim of her husband's rapacity. Furthermore, when Joseph married Hannah, the two families were already related not only through the Thomas-Bridget marriage but also through their mutual intermarriage with the Todds of Sturmer Hall.

A Todd came to possess Sturmer Hall in the same manner as a Gent came to possess Moynes Park, that is, by marrying the only child and heiress of the owner. About 1468 William Gent married Joan, daughter and heiress of William Moyne; towards the end of the sixteenth century Robert Todd married Ellen Radcliffe, heiress to the Sturmer estate. Ellen was buried at Sturmer, 31 March 1614. Her great-grandson, Radcliffe Todd, married Martha Unwin, and her great-granddaughter, Anne, Radcliffe's sister, married, first, Thomas Mortlock, and then George Gent. Anne was Hannah Gent's mother. Thus, before her marriage to Joseph Unwin, Hannah was the niece of Martha Todd, née Unwin, and the great-grandniece of Bridget Unwin, née Gent. I cannot think that the parties to the marriage regarded their union as in any way unusual. True, Joseph was the favourite of his elder brother Matthias, who was George Gent's partner in at least one piece of roguery; and it may be that Matthias pressed Joseph's claims with arguments which George found it difficult to answer; but even if this bond had not existed between the men the marriage could not have been regarded as out of harmony with the social status of the contracting parties.

I do not know where Martha came from. I have tried to identify her with two separate Hedingham Marthas (Martha was a common Hedingham name), but neither of them fits. Radcliffe, Martha's husband, died 29 July 1675. He was

only 32 years old. Martha then married Thomas Ferrand, a lawyer, of Clare, Suffolk. She herself died 27 March 1679. She must yet have been young. Ferrand died in 1689. All three of them are buried at Sturmer.

III

THE HEDINGHAM UNWINS

IN regard to the sixteenth-century Hedingham Unwins there are many obscurities. The oldest Parish Register has recently been lost (the same thing has happened at Steeple Bumpstead); only those who made extracts from it before it was lost could say what relationship existed between such men as John, who died in 1551, and "Old Nathaniel the Comber", who lived about a generation later. I myself can only speak with confidence about the seventeenth-century men.

The study of the Hedingham family is greatly embarrassed by Unwinian conservatism in the choice of Christian names. In the early seventeenth century there were no less than seven Matthias Unwins living in Castle Hedingham, and, in the middle of the century, almost as many Thomases. The eldest of the seven Matthiases is sometimes referred to as "Old Mr Unwin", or as "Mr Unwin, Senr"; but such helpful comments were rarely made, and, if we are not careful, we make the mistake of identifying men who were only distantly related to one another. I possess copies of three Unwin genealogies; in each case this fault vitiates the early entries. To avoid it, I have always adopted the medieval custom of descriptive epithets; and if we remember, and distinguish between, Matthias the Great (d. 1650), Thomas the Great (1618-1689), Thomas the Vicar (1643-1703), Thomas the Bad (1645-1701), Matthias the Magnificent (1657-1715), and Thomas the Grocer (1678-1733), much that at first is obscure becomes clear.

Thomas the Great is the key man. Matthias the Great was his father, Thomas the Vicar his cousin, Thomas the Bad his eldest son, Matthias the Magnificent his fourth son, and Thomas the Grocer his grandson, the eldest son of Thomas the Bad.

Thomas the Great (as well as some other members of the family whom I do not mention lest the story should become too confused) was a clothier; and, since he did not inherit but actually purchased his numerous estates, I regard him as one of the founders of the family fortunes. But Thomas the Vicar's father must have been almost equally successful; otherwise he would not have been able to send his son to Cambridge. It seems possible that the more humble members of the family were in the employ of their more successful relatives.

When he died Thomas the Great, upon whose tomb the Essex Arms were engraved, was a rich man, known and respected over a wide area. In addition to a number of houses, cottages, and tenements in Castle Hedingham, and much land purchased from various men whom he names in his will, he possessed six estates which were sufficiently large to be known by special names: Kentish Blooms, Laurences, Cocks, Eckfields, Broomleys, and Torringtons. The first three seem to have been in or near Castle Hedingham, the others in or near Sible Hedingham. Thomas also made cash legacies to the value of over £1,600; their payment does not seem to have necessitated the sale of any buildings or land. Some of his young granddaughters received £50 each; and it is interesting to note that the girls were not to receive the money if they married without the consent of the testator's widow and sons. These sons do not appear to have agreed about many things, and we can only hope that in making

their matrimonial arrangements the nieces were not unduly embarrassed by the private animosities of their uncles.

Matthias the Magnificent inherited much of his father's fortune, and added to it by his own exertions. He was not a clothier. Nowadays he would probably be called a dealer in real estate. He was also a brewer, and owned several "kilnes", of which he seems to have been proud. His magnificence lay in his amazing energy and enterprise. Many stories could be told about him; he was no stranger to the law. When he died he was the owner not only of Broomleys and Tarringtons, inherited from his father, but also of Camoys Manor, Toppesfield, of several mortgages on other desirable Toppesfield estates, of Partwood, Finchingfield, of a place called Cage Croft, of land in Rusley Green, and of numerous other mortgages, lands, houses, and cottages occupied by various tenants, among whom were included several of his nieces and their husbands. Matthias also left £2,155 in cash. He never married, and was a great friend of George Gent. He left the bulk of his property to his younger brother, Joseph, who married Hannah Gent, and to their eldest son, Joseph.

In the seventeenth century the men usually dowered their daughters. Sometimes, too, they lent money to their daughters' and nieces' husbands, to help them in their business. This money was invariably left to the women-folk, each of whom thus became her husband's creditor. This situation might have led to domestic difficulties, so the testators took care to avoid any possible qualification of the terms of the loan. The wills contain minute instructions in regard to the rate of interest, method of repayment, and all other details. Moreover, the money always had to be "employed and improved". Usually the daughter or niece

that received it was required to hand it on to her children in accordance with the testator's wishes. Sometimes money was left direct to a young child, who received it either on marriage or on coming of age. In such a case the money usually remained in the hands of the executors, who were required to pay interest to the child's mother.

Thomas the Great had five sons, of whom three outlived him. One died in infancy. Another, Stephen, born 21 April 1655, became a pensioner at Queens' College, Cambridge, and died there. He was buried, 30 November 1677, in St Botolph's Churchyard, Cambridge. The eldest son, Thomas the Bad, does not seem to have been on very good terms either with his father or with his brothers. His sons, too, were a quarrelsome lot. None of them lived in Hedingham. Thomas the Bad's eldest son, Thomas the Grocer, went to London, and became an apprentice at Grocers' Hall. Two of his brothers, Roger and George, were in partnership as skinners in the parish of St Michael's, Crooked Lane. Another brother also, John, was in business in London, but I cannot say where he lived or what he was. The other brother, Stephen, has already been mentioned; he was at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, then at Oxford, and later Rector of Westmeon, Hants. Thomas the Bad's treatment of Stephen was a bright spot in a dull and indifferent life. In his will he left certain lands to Stephen, and added: "He shall be brought up as a scholar, with part of the profits of my estates."

When Thomas the Grocer died in 1733 these men's quarrels intensified; several law-suits resulted. Roger, George, and John were already dead, and the Courts were asked to disentangle the legal knots they left behind them. Stephen claimed that Thomas the Grocer's executor had not

met an obligation incurred by Thomas and guaranteed by Stephen; John's widow said that she had never received the money her husband left her, and that Roger's executors had not paid her the money that George had left for the education of her son. Thomas the Grocer had been one of these executors, and was reputed to have used the dead man's money for his own purposes. A similar charge was made against George. Thomas the Grocer and Stephen were appointed joint executors by each brother in turn; and, when Thomas died, Stephen had to settle up with Morley, Thomas's second son and executor. The story is not a very savoury one.

Morley, like Stephen, went into the Church. He graduated from, and later was a Fellow of, Queens' College, Cambridge. At one time he was Rector of Wistow, Hants., also of Grimston, Norfolk. He then went to the Grammar School, Huntingdon, and was followed at Grimston by the Rev. Thomas Elliston Unwin, whom I cannot yet place genealogically. Sir John Unwin, to whom I have already referred, was Morley's younger brother.

Morley married Mary, daughter of William Cawthorne, a linen-draper, of Ely, Cambs. Their son, William Cawthorne, was at Christ's College, Cambridge, and afterwards became Rector of Stoke-cum-Ramsden, Essex. He died at the early age of 41. His friendship with William Cowper, the poet, resulted in the latter being introduced to Morley and Mary. A little later Morley fell from his horse, and died. Thereupon Mary took Cowper more directly under her care, and may be said, during the rest of her life, to have lived for him, and for him alone. She died in 1796, and was buried at East Dereham. Cowper, who died in 1800, was buried beside her.

In spite of his name, Professor William Cawthorne Unwin is not a member of this branch of the family, and must go back to 1613 before he finds a common ancestor with the original William Cawthorne Unwin. I do not know what happened to the latter's children. He acted as guardian to Mary, daughter of his elder brother Henry, who predeceased his father. Mary was married, 28 October 1785, to Addington Adderley, Esq., son of Dr Adderley, of Reading. William Cawthorne's sister, Susanna, married the Rev. Matthias Powley, of Dewsbury, and died in 1835, aged 89, outliving her brother by thirty-nine years.

The differences that existed between Thomas the Bad and his family may have arisen by his making a marriage that displeased his father, Thomas the Great. In the latter's will, as originally drafted, Thomas the Bad only received £300, which, Thomas the Great says, when added to £400 he had already received, made £700, "which is more than what I promised him upon marriage". Later Thomas the Great seems to have relented; he added a paragraph to his will and gave his eldest son a life-interest in Eckfields, which was to descend to Thomas the Grocer. But when we study Thomas the Bad's will we find that he did not carry out his father's directions. Eckfields did not pass to Thomas the Grocer but to Thomas the Bad's third son, John.

One item in Thomas the Bad's will can only be interpreted as a piece of impertinence. He may have been hurt because Matthias the Magnificent had inherited such a large part of the family property, but that cannot be held to excuse his fault: he made Matthias his executor, and left him £10, "to buy him mourning". Matthias, a leading citizen, was probably meant to be insulted not only by the meanness of the gift but also by the suggestion that he would

not wear mourning for his eldest brother unless it was bought for him. And Matthias did not forget. Twelve years later, when he made his own will, he left £100 each to Thomas the Bad's younger sons, Roger, John, Stephen, and George, but to the eldest son, Thomas the Grocer, £50 only; and the money was only to be paid, Matthias said, "upon his signing and sealing a release valid in the law of all claim and title in unto or out of all and every real and personal estate whereof I die possessed". So emphatic a declaration is almost amusing. Plainly there was to be no doubt about the matter.

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Thomas the Bad was not the only member of Thomas the Great's family to earn his father's distrust. When Thomas the Great died his youngest son, Joseph, was still a bachelor, and was charged with the care of his widowed mother. Apparently Thomas the Great thought that Joseph might fail in his trust, so it was arranged that Joseph was to be partly disinherited if he did not do as his father wished. Moreover, if his mother chose to occupy a separate house, he was to make her a small allowance.

Joseph was 25 years old when, three years after his father's death, he married Hannah Gent. They had a large family. Some of the children died in infancy; all the others can be traced. When the eldest son, Joseph, was 22 years of age, he became Lord of the Manor of Camoys. He lived at Trinity Hall, Castle Hedingham, and married Sarah, the daughter of Sarah Fenn, a widow of Sudbury, Suffolk. Joseph and Sarah had one son, Joseph, from whom my father has always been supposed to be descended. The pedigree has been constructed by several different persons, all of whom have agreed in attributing my father's great-grandfather, Joseph Unwin, of Stambourne,

to Joseph, the son of Joseph and Sarah. It is dangerous to question a conclusion so commonly accepted; but I discover that Joseph, the son of Joseph and Sarah, died when he was 2 years old; and that, as I have often remarked, is early even for an Unwin to have sons. I fear that the error must be admitted. Until it is rectified the father of Joseph of Stambourne remains unknown to me. Doubtless the truth will soon emerge from further inquiries. Possibly Joseph of Stambourne was the son of one of his reputed father's cousins.

The fate of the Manor of Camoys is a subject of great interest. In his will Joseph, who died in 1778, definitely said that neither his wife Sarah nor her daughter was to have it. Indeed he left comparatively large sums of money to them "on condition that neither the said mother nor the said daughter occasion any expense to my executors or administrators on pretence of claiming my said Manor of Camoys". If they were so bold any expense incurred by the executors was to be deducted from their legacies. Joseph also said: "My Manor of Camoys, and all the rest and residue of my estate . . ., I give to my executors to be sold by them for the best price that can reasonably be obtained." Yet I have seen a deed, now in the possession of W. Hardy, Esq., baker, of Toppesfield, which proves conclusively that in 1792 Sarah, the daughter, was the owner of the Manor. Of course she may have bought it from the executors; but it seems queer. It seems queerer that in his will Joseph should refer to this woman not as "my daughter, Sarah", as we should expect, but as "her daughter, Sarah", the "her" referring to his wife, Sarah. If we may judge from this evidence alone we must conclude that Sarah was not Joseph's daughter at all, and that when he married his wife, Sarah, she already had a daughter, Sarah.

The daughter married Stockdale Clarke, a lawyer; and I feel that his legal training may have been useful in the matter of Camoys Manor. He was Town Clerk of Sudbury. The son of this marriage was the Rev. Unwin Clarke, who became Archdeacon of Chester, and founded the distinguished family of Unwin Clarkes. The Archdeacon was Lord of the Manor of Camoys; so was his son also, John James Unwin Clarke, of Hornton Street, Kensington. After that I lose trace of the Manor. I think it must have been sold. The head of the Unwin Clarke family now lives, I believe, at South Burcombe, Wilts.

Joseph, second Lord of the Manor of Camoys (Matthias the Magnificent having been the first Lord) seems to have had some sympathy with the dissenters, for he left £5 each to several dissenting Ministers, including those of Stambourne and Haverhill. In the eighteenth century the rise of Nonconformity often affected the family unity, and I myself believe that the ease with which some sections of the family slid into puritanism was in some measure a reaction against the habits of those who inherited and consumed the money made by the clothiers. I am never surprised if after a husband's death a widow tends to seek the society of other men than her husband's relations. I have already mentioned Mary, the friend of Cowper. There was another Mary, too, who on being left a widow found that she had affection to spare. She subscribed handsomely to the funds of the Congregational Church, Hedingham, and "with two opulent members of the congregation" assisted the incumbent, Stevenson, to purchase a residence of his own. On her death she left him £60 a year, absolutely, and seems to have been very fond of him indeed.

An Anglican-Nonconformist split also occurred among

the sons of Joseph of Stambourne. Joseph had three sons: (1) Joseph, (2) Henry, (3) Daniel. (1) Joseph left Stambourne, became a Nonconformist, and married Eliza Jarvis. His eldest son, Joseph, was the father of Stephen, who went to London and became a wine-and-spirit merchant in Camden Town. His third son, George Jarvis, married Mary Ann Brook, of Haverhill Hall, Suffolk. Their eldest son was Frederick Daniel, my father. (2) Henry married a woman of whom his relations disapproved; they would have nothing more to do with him; so he migrated to Malden, Essex. His only child, Joseph Henry, died in 1919, and left no issue. (3) Daniel remained in Stambourne, and was loyal to the Established Church. He had two sons, George and Daniel. Their descendants still live in Baythorne End and Stambourne, respectively.

I now return to the seventeenth century, and to Thomas the Vicar, cousin of Thomas the Great.

Thomas the Vicar (1643-1703) was at Jesus College, Cambridge. He matriculated in 1659, graduated in 1663, was ordained in the same year, became a priest in 1664, took his master's degree in 1666, and, two years later, was instituted as Vicar of Belchamp St Paul, Essex. At Cambridge he was the contemporary of John, a Derbyshire Unwin, whose father lived at Graystones, Sheffield. Just after he went down another John Unwin arrived in Cambridge. This John was a Staffordshire Unwin from Hulleston, Cheshire, and had a sizarship at Pembroke College.

Thomas the Vicar's will is extant, but I am sorry to say that I have not read it. Thomas the Great and others speak highly of him, and it is plain that he was greatly respected by his contemporaries. His eldest son was (another) Thomas,

but I know nothing of him. Historically Thomas the Vicar is important because his second son, John, migrated to Coggeshall, and married Elizabeth Fisher. From this union sprang a numerous progeny; and the descendants of Coggeshall John may be said to form a sub-section of the Hedingham Unwins, the Coggeshall Unwins. Professor William Cawthorne Unwin is a Coggeshall Unwin. The Unwins that print, and the Unwins that publish, books are Coggeshall Unwins.

Concerning the personal histories of the Coggeshall Unwins many men know more than I, so I shall do no more than state the main genealogical facts.

Coggeshall John was a typical Unwin; he liked the old family names, and had many sons. His eldest son was named Thomas. I shall not speak of his other sons, George, William, Joseph, Edward, and John; and, in order to distinguish his eldest son from a hundred other Thomases, I allude to Thomas, son of Coggeshall John, as Grange Thomas, for he lived at a house called The Grange. He had five sons, the eldest of whom was another Thomas. This Thomas seems to have incurred the wisdom as well as the infirmities of old age, for when he died, aged ninety years, he was unmarried. The third and fourth sons of Grange Thomas, Jacob and Fisher, had the good sense to be brewers. I do not know the names of their descendants. The second and fifth sons of Grange Thomas were Jordan and Stephen. Genealogically they are an important pair.

Jordan lived at the Grange, married Lydia Salmon, and gave evidence of his conservatism by calling his eldest son Thomas. I believe that some of this Thomas's descendants are in Australia. Of Jordan's second son Jordan, I know nothing; but his third son, Stephen, who married Sarah

Branston, proved his quality by begetting, among six children, first, Stephen, the grandfather of Philip Ibbotson Unwin, who signed the Foreword to these Notes, and, secondly, William Jordan, the father of Professor William Cawthorne Unwin.

Stephen, the youngest son of Grange Thomas, was a clothier. He defied Unwinian tradition by having only two sons, one of whom died in infancy. The other, Fisher, upheld the family tradition, and had nine children. His second son was Jacob (1802–1855), who became a printer, and founded a printing business which was carried on, extended, and made famous by two of his sons, George and Edward. And it was Jacob's niece, Emily, who by marrying J. S. Moffat introduced Unwins to missionary enterprise. She also upheld the tradition of her sires, and had eleven children. Her first two sons were named Unwin and Livingstone.

Jacob married twice. Thomas Fisher Unwin, the publisher, is the second son of the second marriage.

The brothers George and Edward married two sisters, the Misses Spicer. Stanley, the publisher, who caused these Notes to be printed, is Edward's youngest son. Rex Jennings, who also signed the Foreword to these Notes, is the son of Edyth, George's fourth daughter and sixth child.

IV

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

THESE notes, I fear, are meagre, but the imperfections of my own knowledge are so apparent that they need neither mention nor apology. Indeed, the more I know of the family history, the less I feel I know; and the more I wish to know. It is in such a mood that I have the temerity to add a few suggestions in regard to further research.

Information in regard to the men that lived before the sixteenth century is at present scanty. The first task in its collection is to study the Hundred Rolls, then to ransack the British Museum. Something ought to emerge after that. Concerning the sixteenth-century men and their descendants there is abundant evidence, which subdivides into (*a*) academic, (*b*) active. In this connexion it is convenient to preserve the division into counties, Staffordshire, Hampshire, Wiltshire, and Essex. We shall find, I think, that all these groups possessed common ancestors; but for the purpose of classifying the material it is better to distinguish them.

All the *academic* information can be obtained in libraries. Indeed it is almost impossible to browse, even for a few moments, in the appropriate section of any large library without coming across some reference to the Unwins. The first attack might well be launched against the publications of the Harleian Society, against such journals as *The Genealogist* and *The Gentleman's Magazine*, and against the books catalogued under county headings. County histories are valuable, especially in regard to the purchase and sale of estates; the chief difficulty in studying them

arises out of their uneven value. For instance, in reference to the Essex Unwins, I have found that T. Wright, *History and Topography of Essex* (2 vols., London, 1831), is not trustworthy when he speaks of our family. He makes mistakes in op. cit., i, 534 (in reference to Goodinges), 624 (in reference to Ellen Radcliffe), and 646 (in reference to Camoys Manor). On the other hand, Morant is a reliable author. A useful compilation has also been made by P. Muilman, *A New and Complete History of Essex from a Late Survey* (6 vols., London, 1770-72). I was disappointed to find nothing about the Hedingham men in Norden, *Speculi Britanniae Pars* (1594); but there may be something there in regard to the other branches of the family. The *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society* are of little use; but we learn something from them, e.g., that in the sixteenth century John Unwin issued his own money (op. cit., v (1873), p. 172).

On the whole the academic information concerning the Essex Unwins is fairly well known, but the corresponding literature on the other counties remains to be studied. All results, even negative ones, should be recorded.

If I remember rightly the late George Unwin collected some valuable material on the Hampshire, Staffordshire, and Wiltshire Unwins. He extracted it from the Chancery Records. He also consulted *The Gentleman's Magazine*; but I could not always check his references, and he made some mistakes when he quoted from the issues dated 19 September 1747 and 17 March 1759. I mention the matter in a desire for accuracy. Should any errors be found in my own Notes I should be glad to have them pointed out.

The *active* material is more exciting. It consists of reading the old wills and in making extracts from the Parish

Registers. I do not think that we shall make much progress till all the extant wills have been read. Their interest is enthralling. At first the reading is tiring, and takes time, but one soon gets into the way of it. After learning how to find a will anyone who spends half an hour reading it earns a great reward. I have a list of eighty-three wills, dating from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, which I have marked as essential. Doubtless more remain to be discovered. I think an official copy of any will can be secured; but for that service a largish fee has to be paid.

The Parish Registers that have been studied are not more important than those from which no extract has yet been made. Anyone who has a car, and a few spare days, can make valuable additions to our knowledge. Chatterleigh in Staffordshire, Horton in Hampshire, Bishop's Cannings in Wiltshire, and Eyam in Derbyshire should be visited, and the information interpreted in the light of the facts contained in the publications of the Harleian Society. Perhaps some living descendants of the Staffordshire, Hampshire, and Wiltshire families have already collected some information in regard to their immediate ascendants. If so, it would be possible to work both backwards and forwards in time.

Most of the Parish Registers of the City of London have been printed. Our name must often occur in them.

In regard to the Essex family I myself possess extracts from the Parish Registers of Castle Hedingham, Birdbrook, Helions Bumpstead, the Sampfords, Thaxted, Hadstock, Hempstead, the Bardfields, Wethersfield, Toppesfield, Finchingfield, and Radwinter; but this is by no means an adequate list. A visit to the following places is the next task: Sible Hedingham, the Yeldhams, Braintree, the Tolleshunts, Colchester (where only the parishes of All Saints and St

Nicholas have been visited), Witham, Brightlingsea, Chelmsford, the Colnes, Stambourne, Hockley, Rickling, the Cornards, Sudbury (especially the dissenting Chapels), and Halstead.

I should like to discover the birthplace of Joseph, who, as I have said (p. 36), is temporarily without a father. He is said to have been born in 1750, but the date is not supported by irrefragable evidence. There is another Joseph, too, whose identity remains a mystery; he may have been an important man. He has been confused with Joseph, who married Sarah Fenn, and is reputed to have owned an inn called "The Swan" in a place named Stratford Langthorne; also to have come into the possession of Berwick Hall, Toppesfield, on the death of Joseph, younger brother of Matthias the Magnificent. I do not trust these data, but the search for these two Josephs would be an exciting occupation.

Perhaps I may add that a need for compression prevented me from speaking of the Unwins that owned inns. At one time many Sudbury and Hedingham thirsts were quenched in houses owned by our ancestors.

When extracts are made from the Parish Registers it is desirable that the person who makes the extract should sign the paper and add the date. The date is important. Registers are sometimes lost.

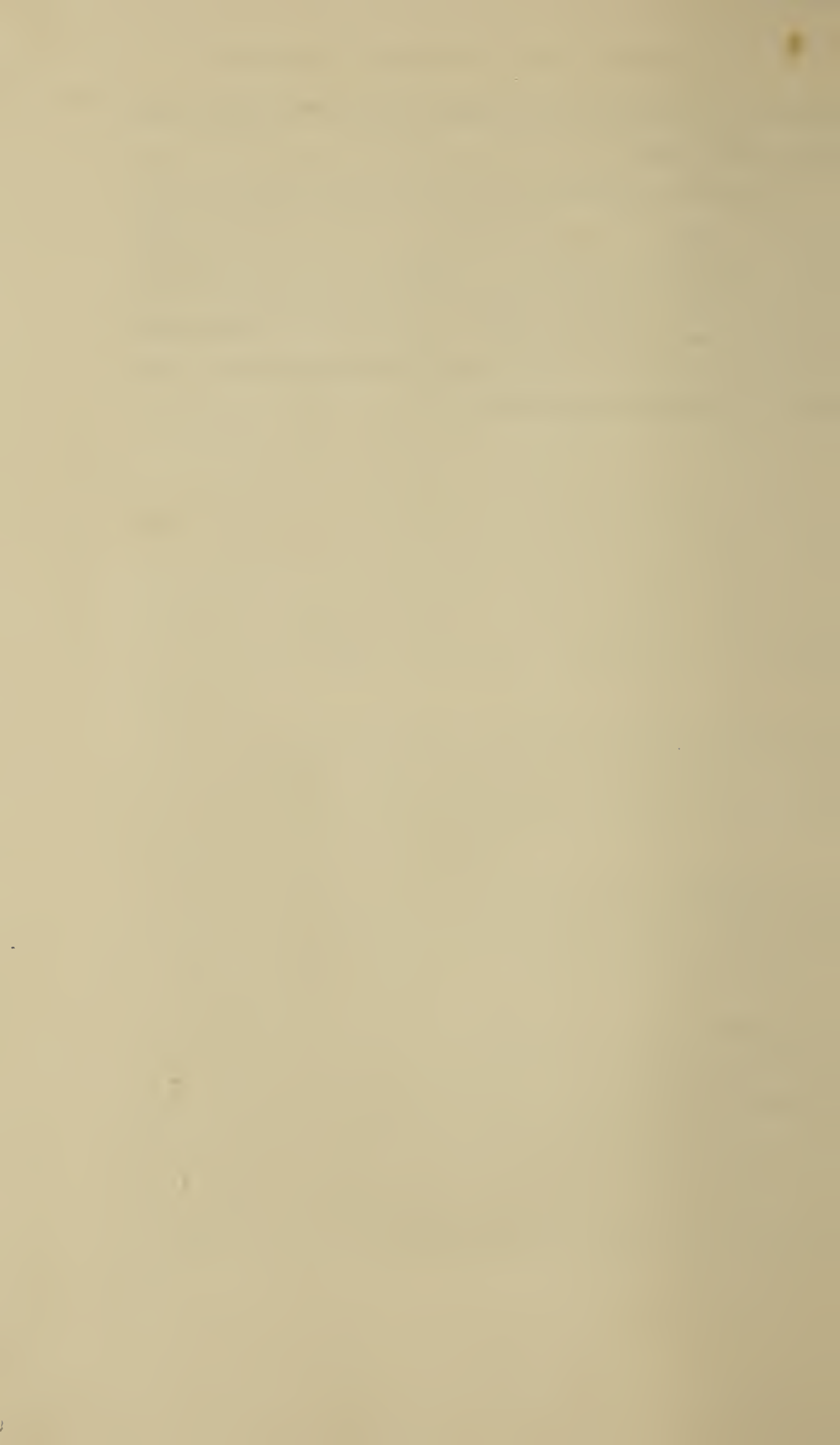
In the construction of pedigrees, I think, scepticism should be permitted to temper an eagerness to produce results. Every entry should be either supported by a statement of the evidence on which it is based or labelled as conjectural. Care should be taken, too, not to identify men of the same name unless collateral evidence supporting the identification is available. So far as possible any genealogical entry, before


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being accepted, should be supported by the evidence contained in the wills.

I make these suggestions in all humility, and hope that the few things I have been able to write may encourage others to devote some of their spare time to the work. Finally I wish to acknowledge with thanks the help I have received from my sister (J. M. U.), who has visited several parishes for me. I have also learnt much from the notes made by the late George Unwin.

J. D. U.



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